

House and Grounds Annual Report for 2018

March 8th, 2019

The committee is comprised of Charlie Neill (clerk), Rachael Neill, David Blalock, Peter Sheehan, Susan Johns Smith. We meet regularly in a friendly atmosphere. We would like to recognize how pleasant it is to work with Mina Brunyate and what an awesome job she is doing. We also appreciate the work Chris Stadler does and his alerting us to any issues he comes across.

We were quite glad to have Peter Sheehan, Susan Johns Smith join the committee. They both came to our December meeting and have brought new energy to the committee. Kendall Kennison left the committee in June as did Teresa Schiano later in the year. We thank them for their service. Rachael and Charlie will be leaving the committee in July, so we are planning for that.

Accomplishments and On-going Tasks:

- Gutter Repairs – we have had on-going problems with the north side gutters by the kitchen door and the south side gutters by the side porch. We have tried a couple of less expensive repairs, but they have not solved the problems. We are currently reviewing a proposal from Fick Roofing to rebuild both gutters. They did a similar job on another part of the roof in 2011 so we are hopeful they will be able to resolve our current issues.
- Kitchen Stove – After a couple of scary incidents and an assessment by a stove person we decommissioned the old stove. We are working on getting a replacement.
- Brick repointing – We are working on getting the outside stairs to the dining room repointed and repaired.
- New Cleaning Service - Diamondz and Pearlz is doing a good job and is now handling filling the paper towel and soap dispensers.
- Unlocking the vault – The new cleaning crew locked the vault as had not done in a very long time. We were not sure how to get it open until Rachael was looking in the office and saw a very old Roldex and happened to look under V for vault and there was the combination! Amazing! (We have locked the door in an open position so hopefully this will not happen again.)
- Mitchell Blinds repaired some blinds in the meeting room
- Whiteford Floors came and recoated the dining room floor.
- New AC for the office – we removed the very old AC after it failed and put in a new one.
- Sump pump – After the sump pump failed, we pumped a foot of water out of the sub-basement and had a new sump pump installed.
- Free standing sign out front – We had the electric to the sign repaired and brought up to code.
- Elevator – we had Preferred Elevator come do the pre-test inspection and then successfully passed our annual test.
- Boiler – we passed our annual inspection

- Landscaping – we maintained the garden by the side porch and are working with the GOAT committee on the new landscaping and rain barrel project.
- Changing the smoke detector batteries – This is not as easy as it sounds but we finally got them changed and got rid of the chirping.
- Unclogged sinks – Rachael unclogged the sink in the women's bathroom
- Repaired the utility sink – We had a broken faucet replaced in the utility sink.
- Fixed light in the nursery – Rachael and David handled this tricky problem.

We meet regularly and open and close with silent worship. We feel we generally proceed with good Quaker process. It is a big, older building that always needs something. We try to do some of the work ourselves to save money and try to share the load among those of us on the committee and others. It was wonderful to have two new members join the committee this year.